General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 96 (q)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/64/391)*]

64/38. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 63/60 of 2 December 2008,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 28 April 2004,

Welcoming the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[1]

Welcoming also the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[2] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005,

Noting the support expressed in the Final Document of the Fifteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, which was held in Sharm-el Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[3] for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

Noting also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of

[1] Resolution 59/290, annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[3] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

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weapons of mass destruction, and the need for international cooperation in combating it,

Noting further the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism, launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and the proposed Global Summit on Nuclear Security to be hosted by the United States of America in 2010,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[4]

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its fifty-third regular session,[5]

Taking note also of the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly in September 2005[6] and adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,[7]

Taking note further of the report of the Secretary-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 63/60,[8]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism;[1]

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session;

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[4] See A/59/361.

[5] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Fifty-third Regular Session, 14–18 September 2009* (GC(53)/RES/DEC(2009)).

[6] See resolution 60/1.

[7] Resolution 60/288.

[8] See A/64/140 and Add.1.

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

55th plenary meeting
2 December 2009